PAGE 1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of Black et al.

Serial No. 10/039,635

Filed: January 2, 2002

Group Art Unit: 2881

Auy. Dkt.: YOR920010319US1

Examiner: Johnston, Phillip A.

Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. 703-872-9318) on Sentember 17, 2003

Sparkle Gunther

For: SCANNING PROBE MICROSCOPY TIPS COMPOSED OF NANOPARTICLES AND METHODS TO FORM SAME

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. \$1.111

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 18, 2003, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

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similarly patentable over Colbert, not only by virtue of their dependency from patentable independent claims, respectively, but also by virtue of the additional features of the invention they define. In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections.

11. Formal Matters and Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-36, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Furthermore, no new matter is being added. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary. Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overnayments to Attorney's Denosit Account Number 50-0510.

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Respectfully submitted,

OFFICIAL

Date: September 17, 2003

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